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Docket No.: A8130.0024/P024-A  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
R. D. Grafton et al.

Application No.: 10/673,235

Confirmation No.: 1583

Filed: September 30, 2003

Art Unit: 3761

For: BIOABSORBABLE TISSUE TACK WITH  
OVAL-SHAPED HEAD AND METHOD OF  
TISSUE FIXATION USING THE SAME

Examiner: G. K. Dawson

**RULE 312 AMENDMENT**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 312(a), please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 3 of this paper.